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Scott. II-27—100,000—21-5-48

Revenue (1948) Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. No. 246

Dated 5-2-1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Estt. - Temporary - Revenue Secretariat - Special officers and staff for work relating to various legislative measures - Further retention - Sanctd.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

NOTE FOR THE CABINET.

Establishment - Temporary - Revenue Secretariat - Special Officer and staff for work relating to various legislative measures - Retention - Proposals.

There are a number of proposals relating to land and land revenue including the codification of land revenue law (ryotwari) tenancy legislation, Irrigation Bill, etc. under examination in the Revenue Department. Hon'ble the Minister (Land Revenue) considers that these have to take shape as legislative measures quickly and that the present arrangement (of entrusting these proposals to the officers of the Department in addition to their usual work) is not satisfactory from the point of view of quickness. The Hon'ble the Minister for Land Revenue therefore considered that the assistance and advice of a competent officer was necessary. He suggested the re-employment of Sri R.V.Krishna Ayyar, retired Secretary of the Madras Legislature. He was accordingly appointed and designated as Special Officer attached to the Revenue Department. A steno-typist and 3 peons were also appointed to work under him. It was proposed that the period of duty of the Special Officer and the staff should be for six months for the present. As it was thought that it would take some time to place the matter before the Standing Finance Committee and the Cabinet, the post was sanctioned for a period of 2 months in the first instance.

The Special Officer and the staff took charge on 13-8-47 and the sanction expired on 12-10-47 A.N. On the expiry of that sanction the special staff was retained for a further period of two months from 13-10-47 pending approval of the proposal by the S.F.C. and the Cabinet. The S.F.C. has since approved the proposal. It ~~being~~ is proposed to retain the staff pending approval of the Cabinet. It will take some more time for proposals relating to the codification of land revenue and to the Irrigation Bill to take shape as legislative measures. The continuance of the special staff would seem to be necessary till 31-3-1948. The Hon'ble the Minister for Land Revenue and the Hon'ble the Minister for Finance have agreed to the proposal. Their minutes are extracted below:--

"The post and staff have to be continued."

K.V.R.
24-9-47.

H.M.(L.R.) ~~H.M.(L.R.)~~
B.G.R. 24-9-47.
H.M. (Finance)

When the file was circulated to H.P.M. he minuted as follows:--

"What is the work he is now doing. I have asked for this information in another file. Please put up".
In another file regarding delegation of powers to the Special Officer to circulate files direct to H.Ms. and H.E., the Hon'ble Minister (L.R.) minuted as follows:--

> "I have passed orders on a similar paper for continuing Special Officer. It will go before the Standing Finance Committee. Regarding codification my minutes may be brought before the Standing Finance Committee, and the H.P.M."

p.t.o.

The minutes of H.M.(L.R.) regarding codification are extracted in the Annexure to this note. In the above file H.P.M. minuted as follows:--

> "The Bill for the abolition of the Zamindaris and that for the reduction of rent in Zamindaris are, I understand, entirely in charge of the Revenue Secretary. I do not see what Mr. R.V.Krishna Ayyar will do in respect of these two Bills. Regarding tenancy legislation I do not think that he can yet take up the drafting, as Mr. Raghavendra Rao's report has been only just received and it may take some weeks for the Secretariat to examine the proposals made by him. As the Special Officer himself has taken a little more than a year for investigating the question and drafting his report, I do not think that we can proceed immediately to draft any Bill in this regard. As regards the codification of land revenue we have yet, I believe, to take decisions on many major questions like the introduction of basic or uniform rates of assessment, substitution of the land revenue by a sales tax on agricultural produce, etc. Till Government take definite decisions on these major questions, any attempt to codify the existing laws may not be very necessary. In any case the continuance of the appointment of Mr. R.V. Krishna Ayyar may have to go before the Standing Finance Committee".

O.P.R.
10-9-47.

The Board has submitted a draft of the Irrigation Bill on the lines of Sri C.P.Ramaswami Iyer's Irrigation Bill incorporating therein suitable provisions with reference to the later discussions and decisions on matters relating to Irrigation and this draft Irrigation Bill is being examined clause by clause. The Special Officer is now supervising this work. In the minutes annexed to this note, the Hon'ble Minister (L.R.) directed that notes should be prepared on all the points referred to by him in that minute first for his study and later for being sent to the Cabinet for decision. The Special Officer is attending to these items of work. In the file relating to the preparation of a L.R. Code, H.M.(L.R.) has ordered that the draft terms of reference to the proposed L.R. Committee should be prepared by the S.G. and this Dept. urgently.

The proposal was placed before the Standing Finance Committee and the Committee has approved the proposal.

2. Orders of the Cabinet are solicited whether the employment in the Revenue Secretariat of the additional staff of one Special Officer with one Steno-typist and 3 peons upto the end of March 1948 will be approved.

Sd. x x
8-12-47.

Sd.x x x
8-12-47..

To
All Hon'ble Ministers.
The Private Secretary to the Governor of Madras.
The Chief Secretary,
" Finance "

p.t.o.

ANNEXURE.

Extracts of Minute of Hon.Minister (Land Revenue)

"I have seen the notes of the Special Officer and the Secretary:

(1) I do not feel satisfied with the mere codification of existing law:

This should include:

(a) Abolition of the Revenue Board. A note may be prepared.

(b) The Land Revenue has got to be stabilised. Among the alternatives suggested I would like a basic tax plus a xgraded tax based on holdings There may be a provision that in future there should be no holding below 5 acres we' or 10 acres dry.

(c) Commercial crops may be taxed more heavily (please furnish me a note on the Travancore system).

(d) The Irrigation Bill may be transferred to Special Officer.

(e) Settlement and Survey rules have to be examined and modified.

(f) Policy of Assignments has to be codified.

(g) Enhancement of tax should be subject to the approval of the Legislature.

(h) The Tenancy question will be subject of separate legislation.

I think that the work should start with spped. Notes have to be prepared on all the above points first form my study and later have to be sent to the Cabinet for decision

The Special Officer may be requested to study the above points and give his suggestions also."

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD AT FORT ST.GEORGE ON THURSDAY THE 22ND JANUARY 1948.

The Hon'ble the Premier presided.

PRESENT.

1. The Hon'ble Dr. P. Subbaroyan
2. " " " T.S.S.Rajan.
3. " " Sri M.Bhaktavatsalam.
4. " " " B. Gopala Reddi.
5. " " Mr. Daniel Thomas.
6. " " Sri H. Sitarama Reddy
7. " " " T.S.Avinashilingam
8. " " " K.Madhava Menon
9. " " " Kala Venkata Rao
10. " " " A.B. Shetty
11. " " " V. Kurmayya

AGENDA....

AGENDA.

CASES OF RATIFICATION OF DECISIONS OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE BY THE CABINET.

Establishment - Temporary - Revenue Secretariat - Special Officer and staff for work relating to various legislative measures - Retention - Proposals (5-12-1947)

ORDER:

SANCTIONED.

Sd. x x O.P.RAMASWAMY REDDY.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Abstract.

Establishment - Temporary - Revenue Secretariat - Special Officer and Staff for work relating to various legislative measures - Further retention - Sanctioned.
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G.O.Ms.No.246 Revenue Department Dated 5-2-1948.

READ:- G.O.Ms.No.1911, Revenue, dated 9-8-1947.
" 2407 " " 15-10-47.
" 2599 " " 8-11-1947.

ORDER:

Sanction is accorded to the retention, from 13-12-1947 to 31-3-1948, of the following staff employed in the Revenue Secretariat under the sanction last conveyed in the G.O. last read above for work relating to various legislative measures:-

1. One Special Officer on Rs.1,500/- per mensem.
2. One Stenotypist on Rs.51--100 do.
3. Three peons on Rs.16--25 each do.

xx

2. The Steno-typist will be eligible for special pay for shorthand subject to the conditions specified in G.O.No.347, Finance, dated 16-5-1947.

3. The expenditure should be debited to the relevant sub heads under "25. J.General Administration--Secretariat and Head quarters Establishments--Civil Secretaries--C. Revenue Department."

4. Sri Dewan Bahadur R.V.Krishna Ayyar, Retired Secretary to the Madras Legislature who has been re-employed and appointed to the post of Special Officer referred to in para 1 above is retained on re-employment in the same post from 13-12-1947 to 31-3-1948. This re-employment will be subject to the conditions specified in para 4 of G.O.Ms.No.1911, Revenue, dated 9-8-1947.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

x x
Secy.to Government.

To Sri Dewan Bahadur R.V.Krishna Ayyar,
The Accountant General, through Finance.
Copy to the Central Cash Bureau.

p.t.o.

Revenue Department.

TO A.S. I.

Please see the notes from p. 1 above and the orders of the Cabinet at p. 9 c.f.

2. A draft order retaining the Special Officer and the staff from 13-12-1947 is submitted for approval. Fin. may see before issue.

Sd. x x /2-2-48. Sd. x x/2-2-48.

Rev. U.O.No.4168/K-47-4, dt. 2-2-48.

Finance (E.II) Dept.

The draft order may be accepted.

/Rev. may however be informed that the order regarding the further re-employment of the officer should be issued in Finance only./

Thro' Pension.

Sd. x x
4-7-48.

Fin.U.O.No.6478/E.III/48-1,dt.4-2-48.

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Revenue Department.

Issue and make necessary C.B.E. 10-3-48.

Sd. x x
4-2-48.

C.B.E. 179.

/True copy/ S. Jayaraman 30/4/54.
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

PSR. 2-2-54.

27/3/54